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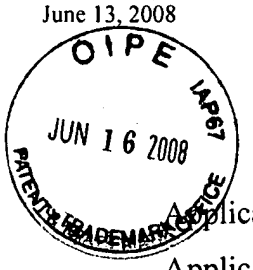
June 13, 2008

PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney's Docket No.: 2376.2136-002 (PA 08 0045)
Date of Allowance: March 17, 2008



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Richard C. Younce and Kenneth P. Laberteaux		
Application No.:	10/779,830	Group:	2614
Filed:	February 17, 2004	Examiner:	Singh, Ramnandan P.
Confirmation No:	9150		
For:	Echo Canceller Employing Dual-H Architecture Having Split Adaptive Gain Settings		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

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Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This letter regarding the reasons for allowance in the Notice of Allowance is being filed in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 17, 2007 in the above-identified now allowed patent application.

REMARKS

The Notice of Allowance states that "Claim 1 recites a method for processing filter tap coefficients in an echo canceller." Applicants respectfully note that Claims 1-13 have been cancelled and independent Claim 14 is in fact the claim reciting the features noted in the Notice of Allowance. Applicants further respectfully note that the reasons for allowance on Page 3 of the Notice of Allowance refers to the specification at particular locations. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification provides example embodiments and that the scope of the claims are not limited to those example embodiments nor the cited particular locations within the specification.

The Notice of Allowance also states that Claim 28 is "essentially similar" to claim 14. Applicants respectfully disagree with interpretation. Specifically, Claim 14 recites a ***method for processing filter tap coefficients*** in an echo canceller that adapts high-energy tap coefficients and low-energy tap coefficients using adjustable gain constants based on an occurrence of a first predetermined condition. The method of Claim 14 further separately adapts the high-energy tap coefficients from the low-energy filter tap coefficients based on an occurrence of a second predetermined condition. Claim 28, however, recites a ***method for searching for filter taps*** for adaptation that searches for a first group of filter tap coefficients associated with a first energy level, biases a group of filter taps adjacent to the first group, searches for a second group of filter tap coefficients associated with a second energy level, and repeats the search for the first group of filter taps, biases the group of filter taps adjacent to the first group, and searches for the second group in an iterative manner to adapt the first and second groups of filter taps.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

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